

Arena

Occupier

[Reclaim the Future!]

Issue #2 Free + GST(10%+?)

*Inside this edition...*

# MORE BAD PRESS FOR



...anti-WTO protesters confront a police line outside Seattle's convention centre on Tuesday. Photograph by AFP/DAN LEVINE

## CORPORATE GREED.

& rts

OLYMPICS POLICING LAWS

LIFE AT MACQUARIE

AND

BEVERLY URANIUM MINE

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

WAY BEYOND...

Arena Occupier is an independently-produced publication by and for Macquarie students. If you want to contribute or find out more, contact us on [anarcyclist@start.com.au](mailto:anarcyclist@start.com.au). Don't be a stranger!



# WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM PLANNED FOR MELBOURNE! ORGANISERS WARN OF PROTESTS! DANGER TO THE COMMUNITY!

The annual meeting of the World Economic Forum is set to take place in Melbourne on **September 11 - 13** this year, with representatives from the largest companies in North America, Latin America, Europe and Asia planning to attend. The three-day conference, as according to the website, "assembles world leaders to discuss economic, political and social issues, and shape the global business agenda."

Shape the global business agenda? Wow. That's a lot to do at one conference. It makes you think: who's invited to this sort of conference? Who actually makes these decisions? *Arena Occupier* delved into these issues and arranged to speak to James J. \$chiro. James J. \$chiro, Vice Chairman of the 1999 Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland and Chief Executive Officer of Pricewaterhouse Coopers, is an all-round extremely wealthy and nice guy. How pleased *Arena Occupier* was when Jimbo agreed to a **rare, exclusive interview** with us. How even more pleased we were when Jim agreed to fly to Mac Uni in his own personal helicopter and conduct the interview in person outside Marxines! (Actually, we used quotes from his website, and made up the rest, but come on! AO has to try and build its credibility up somehow!) Anyway, this is how the interview went:

AO: So I notice your meeting is only three days before the Olympics. That couldn't be so all of you could take in the Opening Ceremonies afterwards? C'mon, Gospie must have set you up with a few tickets, hey? (No answer. Mmm, I better try a new tack in this interview.) Jim, tell me, what was it like attending the 1999 World Economic Forum? Was it as exciting as all those other CEOs and world leaders said it was?

\$chiro: It gave me an insight into corporate leaders' views on growth forecasts, information technology and other topics. (He slurps from his flat white.) But speaking with other CEOs at Davos really brought the numbers and figures to life...

AO: Davos? Davos Switzerland? Wasn't that where

thousands of people protested against global corporate greed last year? I remember that from the news! Was that at the same gig as you?

\$chiro: (Coughs slightly). Leaving Davos, I reflected on the balancing done by CEOs every day –

AO: Yeah, it's a tough job, but someone's got to get millions of dollars and huge kickbacks for it.

\$Chiro: — globalisation and local operations, technology and people, the concerns of diverse stakeholders. Sensitivity to all of these business issues is required, as we move our own organisations forward – and address the broader economic tensions driving our actions in our quest for responsible globality.

AO: How poetic. (Sniff.) Man, that was beautiful. (I take a hanky from my pocket and blow my nose.) So tell me this then: how come there's more and more poverty in the world, more and more of the environment getting ripped up, and a bigger and bigger divide between the haves and have nots? And how come you blokes are always getting richer? Or isn't this discussed at your little meetings?

\*At this point, Jim \$chiro stood up from the table, grinned smugly, and left the table. The interview ended. Apologies, readership: I know there are probably many

more answers you would have liked to hear from Jimbo, but he's not interested in bad PR – it's bad for his share float.

But there's another way to ask Jim and his friends a few more questions: **PEACEFULLY PROTEST IN MELBOURNE 2000!** This is the chance for you, the public, to do some shaping of the global business agenda yourself!

Look out for posters and more information on this event in the coming

months, or visit the protest website on <http://egroups.com/lists/melb2000>. You can also visit Jim \$chiro on <http://www.pwcglobal.com/gx/eng/ins-sol/spec-int/davos>.

→ [active.org.au/sydney](http://active.org.au/sydney)





# RIGHT ON, MUSC:

## Lies, Incompetence and Corruption

By the Green Lantern

In the elections for the Macquarie University Students' Council (MUSC) last year, a loose group of Liberal party members, Labor Right students, and related sympathisers won the majority of seats (15 of 21). Similarly, *Arena*, the student newspaper, was won by the 'NWO' ticket, three of whose members were also elected to MUSC as part of this 'right-wing' coalition.

It has been eight months since the elections. MUSC, the body which is meant to represent students on campus, under the 'guidance' of its Chairperson Jeffrey Wang, a member of the 'right', has continued its slide into a disorganised, undemocratic machine which is working for the glorification of the CVs of Jeffrey and his buddies rather than the student body.

### Lies

The majority of seats won by the right (8 of 15) was mainly the result of focused and deceitful campaigning by Jeffrey and the friends he managed to pull out to work for him. Jeffrey ran at the head of a ticket called 'Smash Racism', which vowed to *'...promote a more harmonious multicultural environment...smash racism within the campus.'* Other members of his bloc ran on the 'Asian Students First' ticket.

In the first eight months of the 32nd MUSC, Jeffrey and his supporters have made no move to fulfil this or any other promises from their election platform. Meanwhile, *Arena*, now renamed *MUSCateer* and with the full assent of Jeffrey Wang has published remarks including the following:

*'Q: What do you call an Asian who has an abortion?*

*A: Crimestopper.'* (p 29, issue 3)

*'You know you are a wog when... you are greasy and sleazy'* (p 13, issue 3)

*'Q: Why do Jews have long noses?*

*A: Air is for free'* (p29, issue 3)

Other comments have included insightful editorial replies to letters such as: *'We like virgins at the MUSCateer'* and *'how about some sex'*.

Jeffrey Wang, as Chairperson, gets paid \$18 000 for the year. He promised to reduce this to \$12 000, saying this would prevent people running for the position just for the cash. Sounds too good

to be true? When this motion was moved at a recent MUSC meeting, Jeffrey and his faction walked out, making the meeting inquorate.

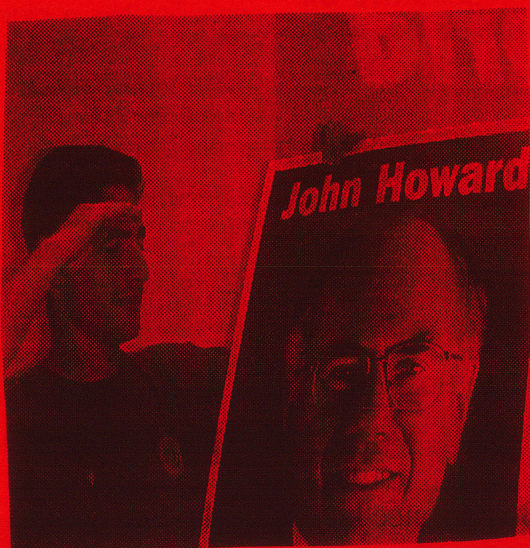
### Incompetence

MUSC is responsible for administering funding to various clubs and societies through the collective established for this task, CLASSOC, and its convenor, who this year is Jiapei Ho.

Due to her incompetence, Clubs did not receive their O'Week grants until months after O'Week, and did not receive first semester grants until week 9. Most clubs on campus cannot function without this funding.

Rameil Jajoo, MUSC treasurer two years and counting, has not presented one report to MUSC on the state of its finances this year.

Due to the lack of commitment by the members of the ruling faction, many scheduled MUSC



(orkin)



meetings this year have been cancelled. In meetings where the right bother to turn up, debate is silenced by limiting discussion to one or two speakers on each issue.

At a meeting earlier this year, Anthony Orkin, Vice Chairperson, *MUSCateer* editor and Liberal party member, called security to remove a student for trying to get MUSC to follow proper meeting procedure. Students from every background and political leaning who have come to meetings to see how their Students' Council works, have been surprised and disgusted at the way Jeffrey's faction conduct themselves and their meetings.

## Corruption: It Smells

As clearly demonstrated by the 'happy snaps' of Jeffrey and co. with the Vice Chancellor, Di Yerbury, and the Registrar, B.J. Spencer, in issues 1 and 2 of the *MUSCateer*, our 'representatives' are in the pocket of Uni Management, the same people responsible for the lack of parking and overcrowding on this campus.

**Recently nominations were opened and closed for the student representative on University Council, the supreme decision making body of the University. Don't remember finding out about it? You're not alone: Macquarie students never received notification that nominations had opened and closed — even the outgoing student rep, Jane Walmsley, was kept in the dark. Last year there were 5 nominations for the position, and an election through the mail. This year there was only one nominee, who was 'elected unopposed': Bao Ho, current MUSC councillor, and Jeffrey's right hand man, recently made honorary *MUSCateer* editor.**

The places of two of MUSC's administrative 'front office' staff became vacant. Applications opened, and a huge number of students applied for the jobs, which were not only right at Uni, but paid significantly higher than minimum wage. After a cursory 'selection process' the successful applicants were James Rowe and Damir Terkes.

James was Returning Officer for last years MUSC elections, the corrupt nature of which was admitted to by Dario Hawat, chief *MUSCateer* editor, in the first issue of that paper this year. He was also a MUSC councillor in the past, and a member of the same 'right' faction as Jeffrey and friends. Damir is similarly a past MUSC councillor and an associate of the same faction. It is now clear that the other students who applied were wasting their time: the decision had been made before the first interview was held.

## Finally...

The only way for Jeffrey and co. to be made accountable with our money, apart from at the ballot box later this year, is by students voicing their anger at what's going on. Every MUSC councillor has a pigeonhole in the MUSC front office, near the fountain, as does *MUSCateer*, where messages and letters can be left.

All students are also allowed to attend and speak at MUSC meetings, notice for which is usually placed in the front window of this same office. Students can also form petitions to call a MUSC meeting setting out the business that MUSC is to consider; such a petition requires 25 signatures. This publication encourages all students to call the bluff of apathy and make Students' Council accountable to the student body. ●





# Women and the Taliban



*these same standards are applied when it is women and girls who are brutally treated."*

*-Eleanor Smeal, President, Feminist Majority Foundation*

## THE CONSEQUENCES

A woman who dared to defy Taliban orders by running a home school for girls was shot and killed in front of her husband, daughter, and students.

A woman caught trying to flee Afghanistan with a man not related to her was stoned to death for adultery.

An elderly woman was brutally beaten with a metal cable until her leg was broken because her ankle was accidentally showing from underneath her burqa.

Women have died of treatable ailments because male doctors were not allowed to treat them.

Many women, now forcibly housebound, have attempted suicide by swallowing household cleaner, rather than continuing to live under these conditions.

97% of Afghan women surveyed by Physicians for Human Rights exhibit signs of major depression.

In March 1994 a 15-year-old girl was repeatedly raped in her house in Kabul's Chel Sotoon district after armed guards entered the house and killed her father for allowing her to go to school.

"They shot my father right in front of me. He was a shopkeeper. It was nine o'clock at night. They came to our house and told him they had orders to kill him because he allowed me to go to school. The Mujahideen had already stopped me from going to school, but that was not enough. They then came and killed my father. I cannot describe what they did to me after killing my father..."

## GENDER APARTHEID — CODIFIED UNDER TALIBAN LAW

Upon seizing power, the Taliban instituted a system of *under apartheid* effectively thrusting the women of Afghanistan into a state of virtual house arrest. Under Taliban rule women have been stripped of their visibility, voice, and mobility. When they took control in 1996, the Taliban initially imposed strict edicts that:

Forced women to beg on the streets simply to feed their children, for only a tiny percentage of women are allowed to work; banned girls from attending school after the age of eight; prohibited women from leaving their homes unless accompanied by a close male relative; forced women who do leave their homes to be covered from head to toe in a "chadari" with only a mesh opening to see and breathe through; required that ground or street level homes where women live in the cities have their windows painted opaque so the women inside cannot be seen from the street; and severely limited women's access to medical services because male physicians are not allowed to treat women and only a few selected female physicians can work only if they are veiled and treat only women in segregated wards.

Women have been beaten and shot at for trying to go to work and for leaving their homes alone or without the proper covering. We have heard from a journalist, Jan Goddwin, that girls at the state orphanage in Kabul have not been allowed to leave the building since September of 1996 — although the boys go outside every day to attend school and to play.

*"If this was happening to any other class of people around the world, there would be a tremendous outcry. We must make sure*



## THE TALIBAN AND ISLAM

Prior to the Civil War and Taliban control, especially in Kabul, the capital, women in Afghanistan were educated and employed: 50% of the students and 60% of the teachers at Kabul University were women, and 70% of school teachers, 50% of civilian government workers, and 40% of doctors in Kabul were women.

The Taliban claim to follow a pure, fundamentalist Islamic ideology, yet the oppression they perpetrate against women has no basis in Islam. Within Islam, women are allowed to earn and control their own money, and to participate in public life. The 55-member Organization of Islamic Conference has refused to recognize the Taliban as Afghanistan's official government. The Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, regarded by many as an ultraconservative organization, has denounced the Taliban's decrees.

## WHO SUPPORTS THE TALIBAN

During the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan in the 1980's the United States through a CIA covert operation based in Pakistan supplied billions of dollars to support insurgent militia forces called the mujahideen (soldiers of God). Following the Soviets' withdrawal in 1989, factions of the mujahideen fell into a civil war and in 1994, the Taliban emerged as a dominant force. The Taliban is comprised of young men and boys of Afghan descent who have hardly lived in Afghan society. They were raised in refugee camps and trained in ultraconservative religious schools (madrasahs) in Pakistan. In addition, thousands of Pakistanis and hundreds of Arabs fight alongside the Taliban. Pakistan is the primary source of support to the Taliban, supplying military aid and personnel; Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and known terrorist organizations provide the Taliban with financial support. Additionally, Afghanistan is the one of the world's two largest producers of opium and a major drug-processing center; almost all areas of poppy cultivation are occupied by the Taliban. But perhaps the biggest potential for financial support lies in the petroleum industry.

## U.S. CORPORATE INTERESTS AND THE TALIBAN

International oil interests are in fierce competition to build pipelines through Afghanistan to link Caspian Sea oil and gas

reserves to Central and South Asia. California-based UNOCAL, a U.S. energy company, led the CentGas consortium that planned to build an oil and gas pipeline through Afghanistan. The Taliban stood to gain over \$100 million a year from this pipeline. UNOCAL announced it was suspending the project at the end of 1998, citing in part, pressure from feminist organizations protesting the company's involvement with the Taliban. Other U.S. and international corporate interests are vying for business in the country. Recently, Telephone Systems International (TSI), a New Jersey-based telecommunications firm, reached an agreement with the Taliban to install a satellite-based system throughout Afghanistan. Corporate investment under current conditions could mean billions of



dollars to shore up the Taliban regime without regard for women's rights.

Anna Passlow

### FOR MORE INFO:

Women in Afghanistan - 3rd World Issues  
<http://women3rdworld.about.com/newsissues/women3rdworld/msub30.htm>

Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan  
[www.rawa.org](http://www.rawa.org)

Amnesty International  
[www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)



oh yes they are → crap that is.

## They Are Crap

This Year's Publications of Students' Council

The two recent editions of *Arena* have sunk to distressing levels of shoddiness and bigotry. The editorial team, in the guise of 'entertaining the average student', engage in a process of creating myths and exclusiveness. This is done at two levels.

Firstly, they create an imaginary other, or groups of others – those who are 'different'. That is, those who are sexually, politically and intellectually 'deviant'. This is an oft-used and favourite method of right-wing extremists and conservatives in vilifying minority and fringe groups.

Secondly, by doing so they posit as an opposition to the 'others' their concept of the 'average student'. **This concept of the 'average student' is a figment of the editors' feeble imaginations, existing as the editors' own ideologies, aspirations and appearances.**

We are not left with any firm grasp of what this 'average' student is. Its nebulous quality, rather than being a product of any thought process, is simply an accident of the mercenary character of the editors' ideologies and their lazy intellects. This 'average' student must, of course, be entertained. But with what? In place of any relevant content there are lame editorials. Somehow, the editors believe that their opinions are shared by the 'majority' of students and constitutes 'entertainment'.

Here we return to their process of myth creation. Above all, they fear being shown up as the self-serving and intellectually lazy individuals that they are, resorting to sexist attacks and poor generalisations in an attempt to divert attention away from their inadequate and reactionary politics. It seems members of the

'Left' at Macquarie University, especially women, must for the time being endure a series of personal insults and innuendoes. Numerous negative references to 'unshaved', 'unwashed', 'sexually deprived' and so on not only highlight the editors' extreme fixation with surface appearance and the sexual availability of women, but also, ironically, their poor powers of observation.

What these disgusting men fear is an alteration to the relationships of power that they hold (real, or how they would like to imagine) to women. It is no surprise that they are leading the Students' Council attack on the Women's Department, as its members, alongside the Sexuality Collective (also under attack), have been the most outspoken groups on campus in challenging existing (and desired) power and class relations.

Yet, it should not be surprising that the editors have extremist politics and create divisiveness. Nathan Booker is a member of the Liberal Party - even if he calls himself a 'progressive Liberal'. Oxymorons aside, the Liberals' social policies of late have only created deeper divisions along class, race and gender lines. Anthony Orkin stands as a self proclaimed right-wing nationalist, monarchist and racist. Dario Hawat is a virulent blend of bigotry and misogyny. These editors are paid for the work that they do so they must be fully accountable to the student body. They are a disgrace to the student paper, to the students at Macquarie and to themselves.

BY  
GRANT LÂ EPPING...





# Welcome to the Sydney Crackdown...

## SYDNEY 2000 AND THE PR POLICE

By Susie Khamis

'Carry the Flame', Jon Stevens' anthem-style contribution to the official Olympic record, is a clarion call to the people of Sydney. The song was not actually written for the Games (Stevens penned it four years ago as a love ballad), but, for PR purposes at least, it should suffice. As veteran swimmer Murray Rose gushed to music critic Iain Shedden, "I thought it was marvelous. It's the sort of thing we would never have dreamed of in our era. It ignites the passion in you, which is what the Olympic spirit is all about".

Indeed, the Sydney Olympics have ignited the passion. Unfortunately for SOCOG, however, it's not quite the sort of passion Rose speaks of. Rather, it's the passion of opposition and protest, and of a swelling grass-roots movement that resents SOCOG's condescending invitation to Share the Spirit. In turn, the 'Clean Games' (a shocking misnomer from the start) have morphed into the 'Cleansed Games', with Olympics' authorities seizing every opportunity to silence alternative voices by whatever means necessary.

One of these voices is the Bondi Olympic Watch, a protest group opposed to the construction of a 10, 400-seat Olympic volleyball stadium on Bondi Beach.

The project has not only angered most Bondi locals, (Waverley Mayor Paul Pearce concedes about 75% of residents would prefer the event be held elsewhere), it's also drawn strong condemnation on environmental and public safety grounds. A recent Sydney University study found that "A point will be reached...where it will become dangerous to walk in front of the fence without being trapped and/or washed against the fence". Such findings could potentially extinguish the Olympic spirit.

cops bring horses in - they charged the crowd @ R157



The authorities' response to Bondi Olympic Watch has been swift and uncompromising, verging on the draconian. In fact, Lenny Kovner and Kevin St Alder, two of its more conspicuous members, have spoken out to journalist John Lehmann over blatant intimidation by police. When a Waverley detective inspector telephoned Kovner and requested he come to the station, "He wouldn't say what it was about". Similarly, when an 'area commander' (who was later revealed to be an officer) approached St Alder for a 'chat', sinister tactics were employed: "He wanted to know about Bondi Olympic Watch - where we meet, who's involved, how many people. He was basically applying pressure".

Another Bondi resident to inconvenience the Olympics authorities is 66 year old Rick Ireland, caretaker of the Bondi Surf Bathers Life Saving Club, which is also his home. Given his proximity to the volleyball events, Ireland constituted a security risk and had to be relocated. Initially, however, Ireland refused to budge, citing the obvious illegality of any forcible removal. Exasperated by Ireland's intransigence, director of the Olympic Co-Ordination Authority, David Richmond, came up with this proposition: Ireland will be issued a special pass, allowing him to visit his home every day during the Games - if he agrees to live in a serviced unit for its duration. Lest Ireland overestimate the freedom he's been granted under the arrangement, it includes this caveat: "it will still be necessary for a security escort to accompany you during your visits to your residence".

The SOCOG squad has become so sensitive to the media fallout of noisy troublemakers, that every effort has been made to preempt any potential embarrassment. Where officialdom talks of 'security' and 'procedure', though, one can usually assume their paranoia has more to do with image and sponsors. For example, Commander Paul McKinnon, head of the Olympic Security Command Center, has publicly

Australia's most famous prankster, Peter Hore. McKinnon speaks of Hore, best known for his antics at the last Australian Open and the funeral of Michael Hutchence, as though he were a Jackal-like international terrorist. "His face in law enforcement across Australia is as popularly circulated as John Farnham, so everybody in law enforcement will know him and have their eye out for his various cunning disguises." What's more, as McKinnon tells Claire Harvey, Hore's case is not unique: "The entire Olympics security force will not have a single focus on that particular individual but he'll be one of several whose faces will appear in all the briefing documents before they deploy on their security assignments".



Such zealous surveillance of Games activity is not just confined to the professionals. Teams of university law students have also been recruited by SOCOG's Brand Protection Agency to be on the lookout for unofficial T-shirts and banners, with powers to automatically confiscate offending items. For UNSW student Vicki Skapinker, it'll be a hands-on exercise in copyright law – literally. As she told *The Australian*, "if a whole bunch of people showed up in the stands wearing Pepsi T-shirts, and jumped up at the end of the race to get on TV and advertise the Pepsi logo, we've been given authority to ask them to remove the shirts or do whatever's necessary to stop them".

Obviously, what's been nominally termed a 'sporting event' is actually a sponsorship bonanza. The Olympics have as much to do with money as medals, hence the extraordinary attempts to mute individuals and organizations that might disrupt this ostensibly *marketing* marathon. Charles Perkins, for example, has caused considerable anxiety over his threats of a black boycott of the Games in response to the Government's deplorable approach to indigenous issues. Perkins' "burn, baby, burn" comments have not only worried



## Bondi protesters clash with police at Games site

Beach clash . . . police arrest protester Andy Holm at Bondi Beach today.

Pictu...

the all-powerful sponsors, members of the tourism industry have also spoken out against him, fearing that any such protests could adversely affect the lucrative Olympic trade. This, of course, is the very point of Perkins' strategy: a loud, unequivocal message to the world community that Aboriginal issues extend far beyond boomerangs and craftwork.

The chairwoman of Aboriginal Tourism Australia, Lois Peeler, makes an inextricable link between the Olympics and industry, tacitly admitting the need to 'pretty up' reality for the sake of the latter. Speaking at the National Regional Tourism Conference in Alice Springs, Peeler argued for a retreat of sorts from Aboriginal activism: "We've been working towards the Olympics and, sure, there are some issues that have to be resolved, but they are political issues". Coincidentally, Peeler is also a member of the National Indigenous Advisory Committee to SOCOG. With as many as 200 indigenous tourist operators to protect, Peeler has a formidable task, making sure ugly 'political' issues don't dent an otherwise excellent opportunity to make a buck. "We want to have the opportunity to showcase Aboriginal culture, and we think the Olympics will be that opportunity to show Aboriginal history and culture to the world", she reasons.

Clearly, Peeler's interpretation of "Aboriginal history and culture" doesn't seem to acknowledge mandatory sentencing or the stolen generations. Indeed, in many ways, the tourism industry has only exacerbated and profited from an almost cartoon-like image of Aboriginal Australia. For activists like Charles Perkins who are not beholden to corporate interests, there's a far more pressing and accurate picture to "showcase" during the Games than the airbrushed rendering advanced by Peeler and Co. As Perkins told writer Katherine Glascott, "Who cares about the Aboriginal tourism industry? It's not a concern of ours. Indigenous tourism is important, but it's not enough of a concern to stop us highlighting the fact of racism in Australia".

The spirit of the five-ring festival, then, is turning out to be little more complicated than organizers anticipated. Aware of the unflattering portrait this will draw, SOCOG has mustered a veritable army of support – law enforcement, volunteers, business leaders, all pleading (or to be more precise, *demanding*) Sydney residents to put up or shut up. For them, it matters little if the Games will deprive Bondi locals of their beach, Rick Ireland of his home, innocent citizens of their liberties, or hapless spectators of their T-shirts. For Aboriginal activists, the definition of their very own agenda is also up for grabs. With the PR police on their side, Olympic officials can easily dismiss these Flame-resistant 'radicals' as misanthropic party-poopers. However much SOCOG tries to have its way, though, one thing is certain: come Games time, Kieran won't be the only Perkins to barrack for, and the Olympic torch won't be the only thing burning.





# the women's department page

## what's on

### nowsa (network of women student's in australia conference)

this year nowsa is being held at flinders uni in south australia. it will be going from the 10th to the 14th of july. women from macquarie uni will be funded to go down there. this year looks like a pretty packed agenda. there will be childcare for any kids that are coming and we will all stay in some accomodation somewhere together. the topics for the forum sessions this year are : women, work and welfare international advocacy perspectives on women's organising women in education body image, backlash and the beauty myth feminism, women's organising and the way forward sexuality information session on feminist activism in your state macquarie uni women's collective are having regular 'nowsa' meetinigs - trying to get the funding/accommodation/transport thing happening. look out for emails and posters or you can just turn up to the weekly collective meeting (monday 1pm in the women's room)

- \* cross campus women's network educational - saturday 27th of may @ UTS. discussion on what is patriarchy, what is women's autonomous organising and why we need it, the fairwear campaign and a skill sharing session. childcare and food provided. ring anna and karen for more details.
- \* cross campus women's network meetings - 1st june 6pm @ UWS and 7th of june 6pm @ UNSW contact karen for a lift to both.
- \* feminist reading group - 1pm wednesday 31st of may in the women's room. readings are in the women's room or call anna and karen.
- \* fuck the olympics meeting - 6pm 31st june in the city. call karen for info. rally against police powers - saturday 10th of june. stay tuned or call karen
- \* cross campus women's network pre-nowsa conference - saturday and sunday 17th and 18th of june. the conference will discuss the topics which will be talked about at nowsa so that we aren't as scared to contribute to the conference when we get there. it will also double as a planning session for the anti-violence against women campaign in second semester.

### women's edition of arena

the wonderful muscoteer editors have granted us a women's edition this year. a bit of a shock you say??? well it's the edition that is due out in week 13 and they have obviously all got final essays and exams and they can't be bothered to put out an edition. so what better way to absolve their responsibility than to make women do it!!! anyhow we have an edition. the editorial collective (all women are welcome) is starting to meet. so come along to the women's room on mondays at 1pm to help organise it. it doesn't matter if you've never done this kind of thing before - it's a fantastic oppportunity to learn how to write, edit, design etc etc. so we need not only help editing and designing but we NEED submissions! so any artwork and articles that you've got pop it into the box in the women's room. the deadline for submissions is wednesday 7th of june (week 12)

P.S. women's collective meets @ 1pm every Monday in the women's room  
P.P.S. Karen + anna can be contacted on 98507629 or 0412462646



**NO RECONCILIATION WITHOUT JUSTICE**

**10am Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup>**

**MARCH WITH THE INDIGENOUS  
STUDENT NETWORK ACROSS  
THE HARBOUR BRIDGE**

★ **meet at Clark Park in Lavender St (close to North Sydney Station)**

- Treaty and Real Land Rights**
- Overturn Mandatory Sentencing in NT and WA**
- Apologise and Compensate the Stolen Generation**
- Defend and Extend Abstudy**

On May 27, the Reconciliation Council of Australia will turn over the document it has been working on for 10 years – a document which is supposed to take the Australian community, both black and white, forward.

Instead, however, it is a document that now has little relevance. While the vast majority of Indigenous people want reconciliation, as do many non-Indigenous Australians, it could never be without justice. John Howard and his government believe that the injustices visited on the original inhabitants of Australia are a mere blemish, which can easily be covered over. Since 1996, Howard and his government have attempted to block and discredit Indigenous people and their calls for justice and an apology.

For Howard, the reconciliation process has nothing to do with justice or equality for Indigenous people. Instead he has attempted to whitewash the past and the real injustices suffered by the Indigenous population of Australia.

Across Australia, the number of Indigenous deaths in custody has increased since 1991 when the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody disclosed its findings. The incarceration rate now stands at 20 times that of non-Indigenous people and suicides have risen even more under the Howard government. Indigenous children are dying at 3 times the rate of non-Indigenous children, with Aboriginal adults dying 20 years earlier than their European counterparts. The Howard government continues to support Mandatory Sentencing and has even attempted to deny the very existence of the Stolen Generations. His government has become the first in the developed industrial world to be called to account before the UN for its policies on race relations in regards to land rights, child incarceration, social justice and environmental destruction of indigenous land.

For John Howard, reconciliation has never been about two equal parties coming together and moving forward. Instead it is about forcing Indigenous Australians to reconcile themselves to their racial oppression.

**UNLESS THERE IS JUSTICE FOR INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLE, THERE CAN BE NO RECONCILIATION.**

Get involved in the campaign for justice. You can contact the Indigenous Students' Network on [joel@unistudent.com.au](mailto:joel@unistudent.com.au) or [k.bullimore@student.canberra.edu](mailto:k.bullimore@student.canberra.edu) for more information.



## OUTRAGE! RATBAG STUDENTS SPOIL JOHNNY'S DAY IN EPPING



etc.

Local Epping shoppers engaged in conversation with many of the protestors and several issues were put onto the agenda of the afternoon.

But of course Johnny went straight into the Epping R.S.L. Club and straight out, cancelling his street walk due to "rain". However the assembled young people waiting outside for him didn't mind it too much. As his cars were leaving the road, two people repeatedly crossed the pedestrian crossing in front of a Commonwealth car, before a huge federal cop threw them onto the ground. So be on guard for Howard lurking around...



★ The PM John Howard was going to do a little walk-and-talk with the people the other week in downtown Epping. It was announced in the local paper which came out about 24 hours before his visit, so with a little phone mustering from the alien head house we assembled a posse of students, mostly local. We did this to show Howard the Coward that he can't just stroll around his own electorate without people reminding him of his shocking record on uranium mining, race relations, the GST,

### © DISCLAIMER:

ARENA OCCUPIER HAS BEEN PRODUCED BY A FEW RANDOM PEOPLE WITH ARTICLES FROM A FEW OTHER RANDOM PEOPLE. IT HAS BEEN PRINTED ON PAPER THAT FELL OFF THE BACK OF THE TRUCK. IF YOU ARE CRAZY ENOUGH TO WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN A SHIFTY OPERATION LIKE THIS ONE, YOU CAN CONTACT ARENA OCCUPIER ON ANARCYCLIST@START.COM.AU. FEEDBACK, COMPLAINTS, COMMENTS, ARTICLES ETC FROM ANYONE WHO READ THIS WILL BE APPRECIATED (AND PRINTED).

## ★ COMING SOON:

VIDEO SCREENINGS IN THE BAR



Pardon me  
thou bleeding piece of earth

That I am meek and gentle with these butchers —Shakespeare

THE NEWEST DOCCO OF RECLAIM THE STREETS, NEWS UNLIMITED TAPES, PLUS MORE ENVIRONMENT ACTION VIDS. WATCH FOR MORE INFO BEFORE END OF SEMESTER- RTS!



# STILL DREAMING FOR THE FUTURE...

**"A group of us entered the mine grounds, walking as a group, and were approached by police and were maliciously attacked with capsicum spray and I was struck on the back by a baton of which I now have bruising. I watched at least seven of the group sprayed in the face, being blinded, [and] several others were struck as we walked back towards the fence."**

**-Emma Diamond of Sydney**

Uranium is a mineral which is used to make nuclear power, nuclear weapons and medical equipment. It is a highly dangerous and toxic substance for any living organism. Even in the most minute of doses, it can cause health problems such as cancer, respiratory illnesses and genetic mutation amongst humans. Uranium, once extracted from the soil, is radioactive for over 200,000 years. The nuclear industry has had hundreds of documented accidents during its short existence. The most publicised 'mishap' was the Chernobyl reactor meltdown in 1986 – and today, an area the size of the Netherlands has been declared unfit for agriculture surrounding the site. Nuclear weapons have been used on humans on numerous occasions by the United States government, including in Japan, southern Iraq and Kosovo (where 31,000 armour-piercing Depleted Uranium shells were discretely 'trialled'). There is also no safe way of disposing of the waste from the uranium industry.

In 1999 the Howard government gave the go-ahead for U.S. nuclear giant General Atomic to start construction of a uranium mine in Beverly, South Australia. General Atomic has proposed to use the in-situ leaching method of extracting uranium. This method, which involves injecting oxygen and sulphuric acid into the ground water, has been described by green groups as an "ecological nightmare". There is also strong opposition to the Beverly uranium mine amongst the local Adnyamanthanha population. The following is how one gathering of environmentalists and Aborigines ended in violence:.

**I, David Guppy, of New Zealand, declare that the following is true and correct.**

I flew into Australia on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2000. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of May, I met up with a caravan of people travelling up the centre of Australia. On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, I travelled with the caravan from Nepabunna to the Beverly Mine where we set up camp on the boundary which was being policed by local law enforcers. Our intention was to stage a peaceful protest against the mine on the basis of land rights and environmental issues.

Throughout the three days we were camped there we held meetings with Ron Coultard and Kelvin, local aboriginal elders, with Ron having access rights to the land for certain purposes. We were

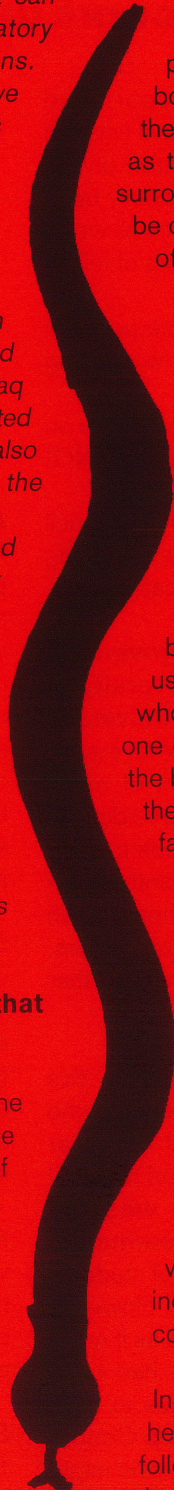
made very welcome by these people who offered to organise for us to walk onto the land peacefully with them to pay respect to this sacred place.

This morning [9<sup>th</sup> May] I followed a group of people who were walking slowly along the boundary led by Helen and her brother holding the local Aboriginal flag. I continued to follow people as they crossed the boundary and spoke to my surrounding friends about how wonderful it was to be on this sacred land. Before long a large amount of our group had joined the procession and without pre-meditation, we walked deeper into the land towards the uranium mine.

Before long, about three wagons appeared driving towards us. Feeling vulnerable, we grouped together. The vehicle stopped one hundred metres or so from us and about eight officers of the law armed with batons and pepper spray with some in full riot gear [got out]. The officers then approached our group without provocation, used the pepper spray and batons to disperse us for the purpose of driving us to the boundary. I first witnessed my friend, who was looking after Helen, the granddaughter of one of the elders, being forced by two officers into the back of one of the vehicles. As I went to find out the cause of this behaviour I was sprayed in the face with the pepper spray and was being chased by an officer wielding a baton threateningly. I ran to the aid of the young aboriginal girl, Helen, who had also been pepper sprayed twice in the face.

I walked with her back to the main group and together we continued walking across the land. As we approached the drill, the workers appeared to stop and dismantle the drill. Happy that we had accomplished the ceasing of drilling, at least for now, we headed toward the site of some buildings and silos. Again we were attacked and witnessed at least a dozen incidents of brutality by these officers on my fellow comrades, young/old, male/female.

In fear of our safety we all fled toward the boundary, helping people who had been injured. We were followed across the boundary by these officers and chased back to our camp. Back at the camp we





gathered and attempted to negotiate with the commissioner in charge of the area. In the end we were given the ultimatum to leave in one hour or be arrested. We agreed to leave and began packing up. We were well on the way to leaving after ten minutes when the officers came into our camp, picking at individuals and forcefully arresting them. Within another ten minutes we had packed completely and were on our way out.

We are a peaceful group out to expose the mining industry and other environmentally destructive industries. We entertain ourselves with music, dancing, performance and good conversation. Our intentions today were peaceful. I have been disgusted at the behaviour today of those particular officers of the law and strongly believe their actions were unnecessary and lawfully wrong. I am willing to testify in court.

David Guppy.

(0:00:00:00:00:00)

# WITHOUT PREJUDICE:

## A REPORT FROM THE OUTGOING UNIVERSITY COUNCIL STUDENT REP

This article is by way of a short report and consciousness raiser. In one week I shall have finished my term as the elected student representative on the Council of Macquarie Uni. The time has certainly been interesting, eventful and extremely busy, but well worth the effort thanks to some great input from lots of fellow students and

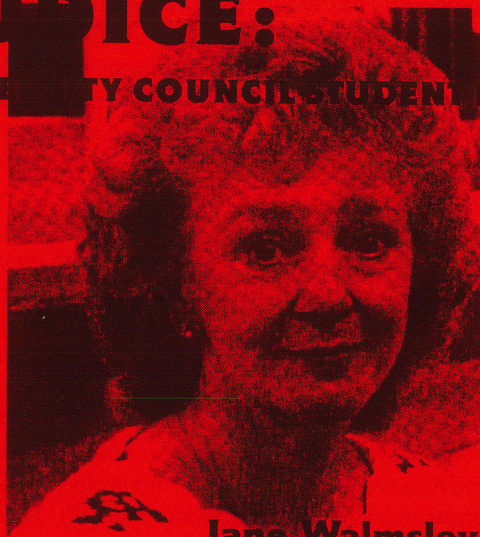
patience from my course convenors. Some people I have not made contact with may still be wondering what the Council is, which is not

surprising given that it is not the most visible entity on Campus as far as students are concerned. And NO! It is not, as some people

have suggested, the same as the Students Council that operates in the Union building and produces among other things a publication called The Muscateer.

**Macquarie University Council is the governing body (or Board of Directors) of the University. It has the ultimate responsibility for this University and for the credibility of our degrees.** What exactly Council does or should do is the subject of much discussion at present and, as major stakeholders in the University, each and everyone of us needs to keep an eye on what is going on. More importantly, if we have any particular views we should make them known (LOUDLY), through this paper, petitions, emails, letters, through our representative on the Council and any other way that is open to us!!

Talking about membership of University Council, this group of 19 people has only one student member who is supposed to be elected for a term of one year (hopefully the number will soon be increased to two if Parliament agrees). **This year there was NO ELECTION because only one student nominated.** Very ODD you might say, given the number of students and numbers of nominations in past years! However, there is a logical (???) explanation: It seems as if many people did not know that the nominations had been called for. One might have expected notices to have been posted in the Union or at the Student's Council offices, but it seems as if students and staff who might have disseminated the notices did not know either! **IN FACT I HAVE BEEN HARD PRESSED TO FIND**



Jane Walmsley

**ANYONE WHO DID KNOW THAT NOMINATIONS HAD BEEN CALLED FOR.** It even seems as if some people who should have received advice of the call for nominations did not receive that advice. Whether there was a breakdown in communications or whether the dearth of information was deliberate will remain a mystery. What is certain is that, without the publicity of an election, very few students will know what is going on or who the student member on Council is. Furthermore, in the absence of an election it is hard to argue (in a democracy) that you represent students since nobody voted for you.

So what now? We have a new non-elected member on the Council of the University who is there to provide the student perspective for the next year. My advice, as the outgoing member, is to voice your views (individually or collectively) and make sure that the student on University Council is aware of the REAL student perspective on the huge number of issues that impact on us all and voices those views on our behalf.

And, if you have something to say and do not know who to talk to then either contact the producers of this newsletter and they will advise of some contact people or watch out for the next edition for more information on contacts for issues that affect students.

Salute...

Jane Walmsley

Elected Student Member to University Council



L<sub>2</sub> E<sub>1</sub> T<sub>2</sub> T<sub>2</sub> E<sub>1</sub> R<sub>1</sub> S<sub>1</sub>

A<sub>1</sub> N<sub>1</sub> D<sub>1</sub>

J<sub>6</sub> O<sub>2</sub> K<sub>3</sub> E<sub>1</sub> S<sub>1</sub>

## SNAP FROZEN WHINGE

Dear Arena Occupier,

Help! The University has gone mad and wants to save money by cryogenically freezing the students and lecturers until there aren't any left!

Ever since the weather has been getting cooler, I as well as other students have noticed that many lecture theatres at Macquarie have very, very cold air blowing into them through the air conditioning.

When I went to a lecture in W5A T2, the theatre was so cold that the lecturer requested the air conditioning be turned off for two weeks in a row. The reply she got was that it was automatically set, and there was nothing 'they' could do about it.

I went to another lecture in E7B T3 and there was freezing air blasting through the air conditioning. My

pages were blowing off the table, and my fingers began to seize up from the cold. I don't remember a thing from that lecture, except thinking, "I have to get out, I have to get out, chatter chatter chatter." Do something about it people who control the air conditioning! At this rate, we'll all be frozen by June... or is that what you want?

Yours sincerely,  
Rrrrachelll Ccccomplowski.

*Dear Rachel, we agree that this is a conspiracy by the dark forces of the university. This policy is an obvious tactic to make students more willing to huddle close together in crowded tutorial classes. We think you should form the People's Movement Against Air Conditioning and Ice Cubes Liberation Front. -eds*

# TWO COWS

FEUDALISM: You have two cows. Your lord takes some of the milk.

FASCISM: You have two cows. The government takes both, hires you to take care of them, and sells you the milk.

PURE COMMUNISM: You have two cows. Your neighbours help you take care of them, and you all share the milk.

APPLIED COMMUNISM: You have two cows. You have to take care of them, but the government takes all the milk.

DICTATORSHIP: You have two cows. The government takes both and shoots you.

MEXICAN DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. The government takes both, shoots you and sends the cows to Zurich.

MILITARISM: You have two cows. The government takes both and drafts you into the army.

SINGAPOREAN DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. The government fines you for keeping two unlicensed farm animals in an apartment.

PURE DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. Your neighbours decide who gets the milk.

REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. Your neighbours pick someone who will tell you who gets the milk.

AMERICAN DEMOCRACY: The government promises to give you two cows if you vote for it. After the election, the President is impeached for speculating in cow futures. The press dubs the affair "Cowgate" but supports the President. The cow sues you for breach of contract. Your legal bills exceed your annual income. You settle out of court and declare bankruptcy.

BRITISH DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. You feed them sheep's brains and they go mad. The government doesn't do anything.

EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. At first the government regulates what you can feed them and when you can milk them. Then it pays you not to milk them. After that it takes both, shoots one, milks the other and pours the milk down the drain. Then it requires you to fill out forms accounting for the missing cows.

CAPITALISM: You have two cows. You sell one and buy a bull.

HONG KONG CAPITALISM: You have two cows. You sell three of them to your publicity-listed company, using letters of credit opened by your brother-in-law at the bank, then execute a debt/equity swap with associated general offer so that you get all four cows back, with a tax deduction for keeping five cows. The milk rights of six cows are transferred via a Panamanian intermediary to a Cayman Islands company secretly owned by the majority shareholder, who sells the right to all seven cows' milk back to the listed company. The annual report says that the company owns eight cows, with an option on one more. Meanwhile, you kill the two cows because of bad "feng shui".

TOTALITARIANISM: You have two cows. The government takes them and denies they ever existed.

POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The concept of 'ownership' is a symbol of the phallogocentric, warmongering, intolerant past. You are associated with two differently aged (but no less valuable to society) bovines of nonspecified gender. You are torn by feelings of guilt. Your psychotherapist recommends a treatment centre. You spend six weeks there, paid for by the community health plan, and graduate into Guilty Anonymous.

COUNTERCULTURE: Wow dude, there's like... these two cows, man. Uh, so, like, you have really got to do some of this milk, like, fer shur, it's awesome, man.

SURREALISM: You have two giraffes. The government requires you to take harmonica lessons.



Everyday™ language™ is™ plagiarist™  
because™ it™ uses™ words™ someone™  
else™ invented™ and™ doesn't™ even™  
pay™ royalties™ to,™ or™ give™ credit™  
to™ the™ original™ creator™.™

The Blind Authority™



<http://www.adelaide.net.au/~mungbean/blind.html>

occUPIER is @nti-copyright- think of the copywrongs.....